



Tube guide

In situations of multi-sampling, it is recommended to arrange the tubes in the following order:

Requested tests	Order of draw	
	Tube	Volume
Sterile samples (e.g. Blood Cultures) The specimen must be collected using a sterile technique to reduce the chance of contamination	  	Green FA Plus (Aerobic bottle): Fill first 8 – 10ml Orange FN Plus (Anaerobic bottle): Fill second 8 – 10ml Yellow PF Plus (Paediatric aerobic bottle): To be used for children or when the expected blood volume drawn will be 4mls or less
Coagulation PT, APTT, INR, D-Dimer, Platelet Function Test, Specific Coagulation Studies (Protein C, S, AT III, Lupus anticoagulant)	 Sodium Citrate	2.7ml NOTE: Tube MUST be filled to specified volume.
Most Biochemistry, Immunology & Serology LFT, EUC, Cardiac Enzymes and/or markers (e.g. TROPONIN), Hormones, Lipids, Drug Levels (not Tricyclics or Perhexiline), General Serology (e.g. Hepatitis, HIV, EBV), Autoimmune, Allergy Screening	 SST	5.0ml NOTE: SST tubes contain an inert gel layer that enhances serum separation. Not Blood Bank (see 6ml EDTA below)
Biochemistry, Immunology & Serology can be performed from Plain Tube, however the SST Gel tube is the preferred option (see SST above)	 Plain	6.0ml
Perhexiline, Tricyclics, RBC Cholinesterase <u>NOT TO BE USED for Lithium analysis</u>	 Lithium Heparin	6.0ml
Lymphocyte Surface Markers	 +  Lithium Heparin EDTA 6.0ml 4.0ml	NOTE: Lymphocyte Surface Markers require an EDTA tube in addition to the Lithium Heparin tube.
Heavy Metals, Trace Metals E.g. Lead (Pb), Cadmium, Endosulfans, Aluminium Bromide Chromium, Mercury, Red cell Zinc / Erythrocyte Zinc	 Trace Element	6.0ml NOTE: Trace element tubes must be full draw volume.
Blood Bank Blood Group, Antibody Screen, Antibody Titres, Crossmatch, Group & Hold Direct Coombs test	 EDTA	6.0ml NOTE: All additional information on the back of the request form must be completed for Cross Matching and Group & Hold. All Details & Signature mandatory. Statutory Declaration is mandatory.
Haematology CBP, Hb, WCC, Diff, Platelets, ESR, Thalassemia Studies/ Haemoglobin Electrophoresis, Malarial Parasites Biochemistry Glycosylated Hb, (HbA1c), Red Cell Folate, Lead	 EDTA	4.0ml
Special Haemostasis - Molecular Testing Prothrombin gene mutation, FVL, MTHFR	 EDTA	4.0ml
Glucose, Alcohol	 Fluoride Oxalate	2.0ml

Specimen labelling - Each tube must be legibly labelled with:

- Surname - Date of birth - Date - Collector's initials
 - First name - Gender (M or F) - Time - Barcode

NOTE: All BD Vacutainer® tubes require immediate mixing following collection.

HAZARD WARNING: Never inject blood into the tube from the needle and syringe.